



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Raised Bill No. 5307

LCO No. 1246



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT PROHIBITING THE UNREASONABLE DELAY OF
ENROLLING A CHILD IN KINDERGARTEN.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-184 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

3 All parents and those who have the care of children shall bring them
4 up in some lawful and honest employment and instruct them or cause
5 them to be instructed in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar,
6 geography, arithmetic and United States history and in citizenship,
7 including a study of the town, state and federal governments. Subject
8 to the provisions of this section and section 10-15c, each parent or other
9 person having control of a child five years of age and over and under
10 eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend a public school
11 regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district in
12 which such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school
13 graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to
14 show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the
15 studies taught in the public schools. For the school year commencing

16 July 1, 2011, and each school year thereafter, the parent or person
17 having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent, as
18 provided in this section, to such child's withdrawal from school. Such
19 parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office
20 and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an
21 attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator of the
22 school that such school district has provided such parent or person
23 with information on the educational options available in the school
24 system and in the community. The parent or person having control of
25 a child five years of age shall have the option of not sending the child
26 to school until the child is six years of age and the parent or person
27 having control of a child six years of age shall [have the option of not
28 sending the] not be required to send the child to school until the child
29 is seven years of age if (1) a physician certifies that the child should not
30 attend school until age seven, or (2) the child has been identified as
31 having a developmental delay, as defined in section 10-76a. The parent
32 or person shall exercise such option by personally appearing at the
33 school district office and signing an option form. The school district
34 shall provide the parent or person with information on the educational
35 opportunities available in the school system.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	10-184
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Statement of Purpose:

To limit the circumstances in which a parent may withhold enrolling their child in kindergarten until the child is seven years old.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]